

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 EB-11 COME-00 SCEM-02 INT-08

TRSE-00 CEA-02 DRC-01 /168 W
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O R 011405Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

T RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9281

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 6971

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, XF, SA, AG, BE

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS OF ARAB MINISTERS VISIT TO BELGIUM

1.SUMMARY: IN BRUSSELS PRESS CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 30, MINISTERS
YAMANI AND ABDESSELAM MADE FOLLOWING POINTS: 1) POSSIBLE NEGATIVE
EFFECTS OF EMBARGO AR EUROPEAN RATHER THAN ARAB PROBLEM; 2) INTERNA-
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TIONAL INTERDEPENDENCE ON OIL IS INSEPARABLE FROM

INTERDEPENDENCE IN SECURITY; 3) ANY DIVERSION OF OIL TO HOLLAND COULD RESULT IN LOSS OF OIL TO COUNTRY AIDING HOLLAND; 4) DUTCH MUST CALL FOR ISRAELI REPARATIONS AND TOTAL WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED LANDS; 5) YAMANI AND ABDESSELAM WILL MEET WITH DUTCH MINISTER IN BRUSSELS DECEMBER 1 AND PROCEED LATER TO WASHINGTON FOR TALKS WITH USG; 6) THERE WILL BE NO ALLEVIATION OF ARAB OIL EMBARGO UNTIL ISRAELIS WITHDRAW FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS, SAUDI OIL MINISTER YAMANI, WITH OCCASIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY ALGERIAN INDUSTRY MINISTER ABDESSALEM, MADE FOLLOWING POINTS IN PRESS CONFERENCE HERE NOVEMBER 30.

3. WITH TWO PERMANENT SEATS ON SECURITY COUNCIL AND CONSIDERABLE ECONOMIC STRENGTH, EUROPE IS IN POSITION TO TAKE IMPORTANT MEASURES IN REGARD TO MIDDLE EAST. MILITARY AID TO ARABS AND BREAKING RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL ARE EXAMPLES OF STEPS WHICH MIGHT BE TAKEN.

4. POSSIBLE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF ARAB OIL ACTIONS ON EUROPEAN UNITY ARE EUROPEAN, NOT ARAB, PROBLEM. EUROPE MUST STRIVE TO REALIZE UNITY IN ALL DOMAINS. MIDDLE EAST CRISIS IS A FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM ON WHICH EUROPEANS MUST REACH AGREEMENT AMONG SELVES. US IS NOT OVERLY CONCERNED ABOUT EC PROBLEMS BECAUSE AMERICANS DO NOT WANT TO SEE EUROPE "AS STRONG AS IT SHOULD BE".

5. EC-9 MIDDLE EAST DECLARATION OF NOVEMBER 6 WAS WELCOME STEP. IT SHOWED SYMPATHY FOR PALESTINIANS AND "SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY" REGARDING OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. DECLARATION WAS EQUIVOCAL ON LATTER POINT, HOWEVER, SINCE IT DID NOT CALL CLEARLY FOR TOTAL WITHDRAWAL. BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER RECENTLY DID SO, ALTHOUGH DUTCH STILL HAVE NOT.

6. REGARDING POSSIBILITY OF ARAB PROVOCATION OF ECONOMIC CRISIS IN EUROPE, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE OF EUROPE AND ARAB STATES CAN NOT WORK WITHOUT INTERDEPENDENCE IN DOMAIN OF SECURITY. PROBLEMS OF ARABS HAVE BEEN NEGLECTED ON WORLD SCENE. IN PAST EUROPEAN PROBLEMS HAD BEEN SETTLED AT EXPENSE OF ARABS. NOW ARABS HAVE TAKEN MEASURES TO MAKE CLEAR

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THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF SECURITY BETWEEN EUROPE AND ARAB STATES.

7. IF STATES RECEIVING ARAB OIL SHARE IT WITH BOYCOTTED STATES THEY RISK LOSING OWN SUPPLIES. UK AND FRANCE ARE ON ARABS' "FRIENDLY" LIST. BELGIUM, GERMANY AND ITALY CONSIDERED "NEUTRAL" AND HOLLAND "HOSTILE". POSSIBLE RESTRICTIONS ON DELIVERIES TO EUROPEANS BECAUSE OF BOYCOTT OF PORT OF ROTTERDAM IS TECHNICAL PROBLEM WHICH MIGHT BE WORKED OUT IF COUNTRIES

AFFECTED MAKE APPROPRIATE GESTURES.

8. ARAB STATES WILL NO LONGER PRODUCE OIL AT A RATE NECESSARY TO PLEASE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OR INDUSTRIAL STATES. AS LONG AS ARAB TERRITORIES ARE OCCUPIED, ARABS CAN NOT MAKE SUCH A SACRIFICE. "OUR GOAL IS TO REDUCE OIL PRODUCTION TO ARRIVE AT AN ECONOMICALLY REASONABLE LEVEL. WE WILL FURNISH OIL TO THE EXTENT THAT IT IS GOOD FOR OUR ECONOMY. IF A COUNTRY ASSISTS THE ARAB COUNTRIES IN A EFFECTIVE MANNER OR TAKES EFFECTIVE MEASURES AGAINST ISRAEL, WE WILL APPRECIATE ITS GESTURE AND WE WILL BE PREPARED T MAKE A SACRIFICE. IF A COUNTRY CONTINUES TO AID ISRAEL, WE THINK THAT WE OWE IT NOTHING AND THAT NOTHING OBLIGES US TO SUPPLY IT WITH OIL".

9. THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT MUST TAKE A CLEAR POSITION IN CONDEMNING ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF ARAB TERRITORY AND MUST CALL FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL ARAB TERRITORIES AND FOR REPARATIONS BY ISRAEL FOR DAMAGES CAUSED DURING THE WAR. YAMANI AND ABDESSELAM WILL MEET WITH A DUTCH MINISTER IN BRUSSELS ON DECEMBER 1, FOLLOWING TALKS WITH EC OFFICIALS, AND WILL PROCEED LATER TO WASHINGTON TO MEET WITH USG.

10. MERE OPENING OF MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE WILL NOT CAUSE INITIATION OF MEASURES TO ALLEVIATE OIL EMBARGO. ISRAEL MUST FIRST WITHDRAW FROM THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. STRAUSZ-HUPE

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED CAIRO.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, TRADE CONTROLS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BRUSSE06971
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731251/aaaablni.tel
Line Count: 142
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31-Aug-2001 by thomasv0>; APPROVED <26-Dec-2001 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS REPORTS OF ARAB MINISTERS VISIT TO BELGIUM
TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, XF, SA, AG, BE
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005